

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

09/640,802

Applicant(s)

CAO ET AL.

Examiner

Art Unit

Ted M. Wang

2611

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 02/17/2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-16 and 18.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)           |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____ |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment                              |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit<br>of Biological Material          | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance  |
|   | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____   |

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Response to Arguments*

1. Applicant's arguments, filed on 2/17/2006, with respect to Claims 5, 6, 11, 12, 15, and 16 have been fully considered and are persuasive (detailed arguments refer to pages 8-11). The rejection of claims 5, 6, 11, 12, 15, and 16 under 35 USC § 112 second paragraph has been withdrawn.

### *Allowable Subject Matter*

2. Claims 1-16 and 18 are allowed.
3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance.
  - The prior art fails to teach an electronic circuit/arrangement /system of Claims 1, 7 and 13 that specifically comprises the following:
    - The instant application is deemed to be directed to a non-obvious improvement over the admitted prior art of the instant application and the invention patented in Pat. No. US 3,993,867, US 5,541,535, 5,761,246, and 6,226,330. The improvement comprises:

With regard claim 1, "the signal sending circuitry creating a combined signal at the interface node, the combined signal being dependent on the signal from the electronic circuit and the signals simultaneously applied by the two or more separate electronic circuits connected at other points to the transmission line; while simultaneously receiving signals from two or more separate electronic circuits over the common transmission line; and decoding circuitry coupled to the interface

node, the decoding circuitry for detecting the combined signal at the interface node and decoding the signal from the two or more separate electronic circuits responsive to the combined signal." as recited in combination of other limitation as described in the claim;

With regard claims 7 and 13, "each circuit including sending circuitry connected to the common transmission line, the sending circuitry of the respective circuits cooperating to produce an encoded signal on the transmission line based upon the values of the respective digital signals asserted by the respective circuits; and each circuit further including a decoding arrangement for decoding the encoded signal appearing on the common transmission line to produce the digital signals asserted from each other circuit." as recited in combination of other limitation as described in the claim.

4. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

### ***Conclusion***

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ted M. Wang whose telephone number is (571) 272-3053. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F, 7:30 AM to 5:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Chieh Fan can be reached on 571-272-3042. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at (866) 217-9197 (toll-free).

Ted M Wang  
Examiner  
Art Unit 2634

Ted M. Wang

  
**CHIEH M. FAN**  
**SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER**